

Serial No. 09/926,486

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

8. (Proposed Amended) A composite material of substantially uniform density and being substantially free of cavities, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a base material comprising a metal, non-metal or a compound thereof, and dispersed therein carbon as a dispersion material ~~at least one metal, non-metal or a compound thereof, which is different from that of the base material,~~ said composite material made by a method comprising (i) evaporating the metal, non-metal or compound thereof of the base material and ~~the metal, non-metal or compound thereof of the~~ carbon dispersion material either simultaneously or alternately to obtain evaporated particles; (ii) and depositing the evaporated particles on a substrate to form the composite material.
9. (Proposed Amended) The composite material according to claim 8, characterized in that the base material is aluminum and ~~the dispersion material is carbon.~~

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